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BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTICES

The Spanish Borderlands: a Chronicle of Old Florida and the Southwest. By Herbert E. Bolton. Chronicles of America series, Vol. XXIII. New Haven: Yale University Press. 1921. Pp. xiv, 320.

This book is really a companion to two other well known volumes of the Chronicles of America series—Richman's *Spanish Conquerors* (volume 2) and Shepherd's *Hispanic Nations of the New World* (volume 50). The first tells the story of the original *conquistadores*—Columbus, Balboa, Cortés, and Pizarro; the latter surveys the early nineteenth century struggles for independence and the post-revolutionary movements in the various Hispanic American countries. Bolton's *Spanish Borderlands* tells "of Spanish pathfinders and pioneers in the regions between Florida and California, now belonging to the United States, over which Spain held sway for centuries. These were the northern outposts of New Spain, maintained chiefly to hold the country against foreign intruders and against the inroads of savage tribes. They were far from the centers of Spanish colonial civilization, in the West Indies, Central America, Mexico, and Peru."

With such a purpose fulfilled, this book is of dual interest and importance; it serves as a sort of connecting link—at least so far as the Spanish frontier in North America is concerned—between the achievements of Spain's first great conquerors as told by Richman, and the beginnings of Hispanic American national autonomy and development as related by Shepherd. In addition it sets forth in clear, scholarly, and well-told narrative that part of the history of the present United States that was contributed by Spain—a part overlooked and disregarded so long by historians of the United States, and a part which, due to the researches of Professor Bolton and associated scholars, is just now coming to be recognized as of comparative importance with those parts played by the French, the English, the Dutch, the Swedes, and the Russians.

In *The Colonization of North America, 1492-1783* (New York, 1921), Professors Bolton and Marshall have presented a text of European colonization in North America and have attempted to

give proportionate emphasis to each of the colonizing nations of Europe in North America. Commendable as are their efforts, that book in all its parts remains essentially a text, with point of view and compactness of detail rather than interestingly and fully recited narrative its chief contribution and characteristic. For this text *The Spanish Borderlands* will serve as a most admirable supplementary reference and in this sense will fill a greatly felt want. It will be for the text of Spanish achievements in the United States something of what Parkman's *La Salle* and his *Half Century of Conflict* are to the text of French achievements in the trans-Alleghany West and the Mississippi Valley.

The book is divided into two parts—"The Explorers" and "The Colonies." Under the first heading four chapters narrate the activities of the great Spanish explorers within the present limits of the United States. Chapter I treats of Ponce de León in Florida, of Ayllon in the present Carolinas, and of Narváez in Florida and his last voyage on the Mexican Gulf. Chapter II recites the experiences of Cabeza de Vaca in Texas and in the course of his transcontinental journey thence to the Gulf of California. Chapter III recounts the wanderings and vicissitudes of De Soto and his followers from Florida and the Carolinas westward to Oklahoma and Texas. Chapter IV tells anew the story of Coronado in the great Southwest and of Cabrillo and Vizcaino along the Pacific Coast in 1542 and 1602, respectively.

Under "The Colonies" a chapter is given to each of six subjects. Chapter V deals with Florida through its definite conquests by Menéndez de Avilés, 1565-1572, and with missionary activity there until 1615. Chapter VI treats of New Mexico from the conquest of Oñate in 1598 until the definite reduction of the Pueblos in 1700, with just a brief summary of the next century and a quarter of Spanish rule. Chapter VII summarizes the incomparable labors, chiefly those of Fathers Kino and Salvatierra, in Sinaloa, Pimeria Alta, and Lower California. Chapter VIII surveys the dramatic activities of the Spaniards in Texas following reports of La Salle's settlement on Lavaca Bay; the fortunes of the Spaniards in East Texas during the next few decades—the abandonment, reoccupation, withdrawal, and definite reoccupation under Aguayo, of East Texas; and the relations of the Spaniards and French along the Arroyo Hondo frontier until this was

obliterated as a result of the Seven Years War. Chapter IX narrates the initial nervous and half-hearted policy of Spain with respect to the occupation of Louisiana after 1763, followed by the more vigorous policy of "Bloody" O'Reilly and the conciliatory policies of Unzaga and Bernardo Gálvez; the readjustments in Western Louisiana and East Texas made necessary by the extension of the Spanish frontier to the Mississippi; and the Spanish achievements in exploration, development of the fur trade, and the control of the Indians, who, for so long, had been taught by the French to "hate" the Spaniards. Chapter X tells the romantic story of the labors of Father Serra in the founding of missions in California, and of the cooperation in this work of Father Garcés, the explorer, and of Juan Bautista de Anza, the leader of an intrepid band from Pimeria Alta to the founding of San Francisco. In this chapter, and the one on Texas, Professor Bolton excels with respect to well and interestingly told narrative.

A worth while critical bibliographical note and a comprehensive index conclude the volume.

Aside from its importance and value as a supplementary reference book and the high place which it fills in the general historiography of the northern frontier of New Spain, *The Spanish Borderlands* will live because it is readable. Nowhere is style secured at the expense of fact; instead facts are made the bases for a convincing and pleasing style.

CHARLES W. HACKETT.